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March 6, 2001

Russell Harms Georgia-Pacific Gypsum Corporation P.O. Box 337350 Las Vegas, Nevada 89033

Re: <u>Clarification of Request for an Amendment, Georgia-Pacific Gypsum Corporation, Hebe Quarry,</u>
<u>M/015/072, UTU-73779, Emery County, Utah</u>

Dear Mr. Harms:

On February 5, 2001, the Division received your request to amend the approved plan for Georgia-Pacific (G-P) Gypsum Corporation's Hebe Quarry operation in Emery County, Utah. The amendment concerns an expansion of the operation to a previously undisturbed area. This area is labeled C-3 and encompasses an area of 3.5 acres.

The approved Hebe Quarry permit includes 25.75 acres of proposed mining disturbance in five areas, plus an additional 7.17 acres of road right-of-way for a total of 32.92 acres. These mining areas are described as follows:

Area A	2.62 acres
Area B	2.22 acres
Area C-1	2.82 acres
Area C-2	5.79 acres
Area D	0.69 acres
Area E	10.86 acres
Road	0.75 acres
Total	25.75 acres

Your cover letter states that of this 25.75 acres of permitted mining areas, G-P has only disturbed approximately 7.5 acres to date. Because the acreage disturbed to date is well under 25.75 acres, the current amount of reclamation surety is sufficient to cover the additional 3.5 acres of disturbance proposed under this amendment.

Although the present reclamation surety amount is sufficient to cover this amendment, the 3.5 acres of disturbance in the C-3 area was not included in the original approved permit. The disturbed area boundaries we outlined on maps submitted to the Division as a part of the original permit application did not include the C-3 area.

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Therefore, any deviation from the approved plan requires a permit amendment to include the additional areas. An expansion to the approved permit area would require additional bonding to reclaim the new disturbed area and the updating of the reclamation plan's legal description to include the new area(s) and any proposed changes in the reclamation treatments.

G-P may choose one of the following two options for handling this amendment request:

- 1) a reduction of the disturbed acreage covered under the present approved plan by 3.5 acres to be replaced by the new 3.5 acre area. (If Georgia-Pacific chooses this option, a map showing the previously approved disturbed area and the new disturbed area boundaries should be submitted to the Division for review with this amendment; or,
- 2) G-P may amend the present approved permit area boundary to add this additional 3.5 acre area. (If this option is chosen, the surety and reclamation contract must be changed to reflect the increased acreage when the amendment is approved). If reclamation of the C-3 area will not follow the plan presently on file for the Hebe quarry, please include a plan noting the treatments that will take place in this area.

The present surety for the Hebe quarry was calculated using tonnages furnished by Western Clay Company for the seed-bed, cryptogam, and overburden materials. Please provide these estimated tonnages for the new C-3 amendment area. This information will be necessary for the surety to accurately reflect the material to be replaced during reclamation. An updated legal description for the C-3 area will also need to be included in the reclamation contract for the Hebe quarry.

The Division will await Georgia-Pacific's response to this inquiry before we proceed with the approval process of this amendment.

If you have any questions concerning this letter please call Wayne Hedberg or Doug Jensen at (801) 538-5286 and 538-5382, respectively.

Sincerely,

D. Wayne Hedberg

Permit Supervisor

Minerals Regulatory Program